

Preliminary Classification:

Proposed Class:

Subclass:

NOTE: "All applicants are requested to include a preliminary classification on newly filed patent applications. The preliminary classification, preferably class and subclass designations, should be identified in the upper right-hand corner of the letter of transmittal accompanying the application papers, for example 'Proposed Class 2, subclass 129.'" M.P.E.P., § 601, 7th ed.

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER
TO THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE (EO/US)
(ENTRY INTO U.S. NATIONAL PHASE UNDER CHAPTER II)**

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/FI00/00737	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 31 August 2000.	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 1 September 1999
TITLE OF INVENTION Method And Arrangement For Providing Customized Audio Characteristics To Cellular Terminals		
APPLICANT(S) Jukka HOLM, Matti HAMALAINEN, David P. WILLIAMS, Janne AALTONEN, Ari IKONEN		

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231
ATTENTION: EO/US

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10*
(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is mandatory;
Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

- ☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 *
- ☐ with sufficient postage as first class mail. ☒ as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"
Mailing Label No. EL627512543US (mandatory)

TRANSMISSION

- ☐ facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (703) _____

Signature

Shauna Murphy

(type or print name of person certifying)

Date: February 28, 2002

* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

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NOTE: To avoid abandonment of the application, the applicant shall furnish to the USPTO, not later than 20 months from the priority date: (1) a copy of the international application, unless it has been previously communicated by the International Bureau or unless it was originally filed in the USPTO; and (2) the basic national fee (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)). The 30-month time limit may not be extended. 37 C.F.R. § 1.495.

WARNING: Where the items are those which can be submitted to complete the entry of the international application into the national phase are subsequent to 30 months from the priority date the application is still considered to be in the international state and if mailing procedures are utilized to obtain a date the express mail procedure of 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 must be used (since international application papers are not covered by an ordinary certificate of mailing—See 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

NOTE: Documents and fees must be clearly identified as a submission to enter the national state under 35 U.S.C. § 371 otherwise the submission will be considered as being made under 35 U.S.C. § 111. 37 C.F.R. § 1.494(f).

- I. Applicant herewith submits to the United States Elected Office (EO/US) the following items under 35 U.S.C. § 371:
- a. ☒ This express request to immediately begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. § 371(f)).
 - b. ☒ The U.S. National Fee (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(1)) and other fees (37 C.F.R. § 1.492) as indicated below:

2. Fees

CLAIMS FEE	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
<input type="checkbox"/> *	TOTAL CLAIMS				
	32	32 - 20 =	12	× \$18.00 =	\$ 216.00
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS				
	4	4 - 3 =	1	× \$84.00 =	84.00
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)				+ \$ 280.00 =
BASIC FEE**	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. PTO WAS INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION AUTHORITY Where an international preliminary examination fee as set forth in § 1.482 has been paid on the international application to the U.S. PTO: <input type="checkbox"/> and the international preliminary examination report states that the criteria of novelty, inventive step (non-obviousness) and industrial activity, as defined in PCT Article 33(1) to (4) have been satisfied for all the claims presented in the application entering the national stage (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(4)) \$100.00 <input type="checkbox"/> and the above requirements are not met (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(1)) \$ 710.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. PTO WAS NOT INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION AUTHORITY Where no international preliminary examination fee as set forth in § 1.482 has been paid to the U.S. PTO, and payment of an international search fee as set forth in § 1.445(a)(2) to the U.S. PTO: <input type="checkbox"/> has been paid (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(2)) \$ 740.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has not been paid (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(3)) ..\$1,040.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> where a search report on the international application has been prepared by the European Patent Office or the Japanese Patent Office (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(5)) \$ 890.00				1,040.00
	Total of above Calculations				= 1,340.00
SMALL ENTITY	Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Assertion must be made. (note 37 C.F.R. § 1.27)				-
	Subtotal				
	Total National Fee				\$ 1,340.00
	Fee for recording the enclosed assignment document \$40.00 (37 C.F.R. § 1.21(h)). (See Item 13 below). See attached "ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEET".				
TOTAL	Total Fees enclosed				\$ 1,340.00

*See attached Preliminary Amendment Reducing the Number of Claims.

- ☒ Attached is a ☒ check ☐ money order in the amount of \$ 1,340.00
☐ Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$ _____
☒ to Deposit Account No. 16-1350
☐ to Credit card as shown on the attached credit card information authorization form PTO-2038.

WARNING: Credit card information should *not* be included on this form as it may become public.

- ☒ Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above.

A duplicate of this paper is attached.

****WARNING:** "To avoid abandonment of the application the applicant shall furnish to the United States Patent and Trademark Office not later than the expiration of 30 months from the priority date: * * * (2) the basic national fee (see § 1.492(a)). The 30-month time limit may not be extended." 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(b).

WARNING: If the translation of the international application and/or the oath or declaration have not been submitted by the applicant within thirty (30) months from the priority date, such requirements may be met within a time period set by the Office. 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(b)(2). The payment of the surcharge set forth in § 1.492(e) is required as a condition for accepting the oath or declaration later than thirty (30) months after the priority date. The payment of the processing fee set forth in § 1.492(f) is required for acceptance of an English translation later than thirty (30) months after the priority date. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in abandonment of the application. The provisions of § 1.136 apply to the period which is set. Notice of Jan. 3, 1993, 1147 O.G. 29 to 40.

☐ Assertion of Small Entity Status

☐ Applicant hereby asserts status as a small entity under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(c) deals with the assertion of small entity status, whether by a written specific declaration thereof or by payment as a small entity of the basic filing fee or the fee for the entry into the national phase as states:

"(c) Assertion of small entity status. Any party (person, small business concern or nonprofit organization) should make a determination, pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section, of entitlement to be accorded small entity status based on the definitions set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, and must, in order to establish small entity status for the purpose of paying small entity fees, actually make an assertion of entitlement to small entity status, in the manner set forth in paragraphs (c)(1) or (c)(3) of this section, in the application or patent in which such small entity fees are to be paid.

(1) Assertion by writing. Small entity status may be established by a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status. A written assertion must:

(i) Be clearly identifiable;

(ii) Be signed (see paragraph (c)(2) of this section); and

(iii) Convey the concept of entitlement to small entity status, such as by stating that applicant is a small entity, or that small entity status is entitled to be asserted for the application or patent. While no specific words or wording are required to assert small entity status, the intent to assert small entity status must be clearly indicated in order to comply with the assertion requirement.

(2) Parties who can sign and file the written assertion. The written assertion can be signed by:

(i) One of the parties identified in §§ 1.33(b) (e.g., an attorney or agent registered with the Office), §§ 3.73(b) of this chapter notwithstanding, who can also file the written assertion;

(ii) At least one of the individuals identified as an inventor (even though a §§ 1.63 executed oath or declaration has not been submitted), notwithstanding §§ 1.33(b)(4), who can also file the written assertion pursuant to the exception under §§ 1.33(b) of this part; or

(iii) An assignee of an undivided part interest, notwithstanding §§ 1.33(b)(3) and 3.73(b) of this chapter, but the partial assignee cannot file the assertion without resort to a party identified under §§ 1.33(b) of this part.

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(3) Assertion by payment of the small entity basic filing or basic national fee. The payment, by any party, of the exact amount of one of the small entity basic filing fees set forth in §§ 1.16(a), (f), (g), (h), or (k), or one of the small entity basic national fees set forth in §§ 1.492(a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5), will be treated as a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status even if the type of basic filing or basic national fee is inadvertently selected in error.

(i) If the Office accords small entity status based on payment of a small entity basic filing or basic national fee under paragraph (c)(3) of this section that is not applicable to that application, any balance of the small entity fee that is applicable to that application will be due along with the appropriate surcharge set forth in §§ 1.16(e), or §§ 1.16(f).

(ii) The payment of any small entity fee other than those set forth in paragraph (c)(3) of this section (whether in the exact fee amount or not) will not be treated as a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status and will not be sufficient to establish small entity status in an application or a patent."

3. ☒ A copy of the International application as filed (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(2)):

NOTE: Section 1.495 (b) was amended to require that the basic national fee and a copy of the international application must be filed with the Office by 30 months from the priority date to avoid abandonment. "The International Bureau normally provides the copy of the international application to the Office in accordance with PCT Article 20. At the same time, the International Bureau notifies applicant of the communication to the Office. In accordance with PCT Rule 47.1, that notice shall be accepted by all designated offices as conclusive evidence that the communication has duly taken place. Thus, if the applicant desires to enter the national stage, the applicant normally need only check to be sure the notice from the International Bureau has been received and then pay the basic national fee by 30 months from the priority date." Notice of Jan. 7, 1993, 1147 O.G. 29 to 40, at 35-36. See item 14c below.

- a. ☐ is transmitted herewith.
- b. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed with the United States Receiving Office.
- c. ☒ has been transmitted
 - i. ☒ by the International Bureau.

Date of mailing of the application (from form PCT/1B/308):

3/8/01

- ii. ☐ by applicant on _____. (Date)

4. ☒ A translation of the International application into the English language (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(2)):

- a. ☐ is transmitted herewith.
- b. ☒ is not required as the application was filed in English.
- c. ☐ was previously transmitted by applicant on _____. (Date)
- d. ☐ will follow.

5. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(3)):

NOTE: The Notice of January 7, 1993 points out that 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(a) was amended to clarify the existing and continuing practice that PCT Article 19 amendments must be submitted by 30 months from the priority date and this deadline may not be extended. The Notice further advises that: "The failure to do so will not result in loss of the subject matter of the PCT Article 19 amendments. Applicant may submit that subject matter in a preliminary amendment filed under section 1.121. In many cases, filing an amendment under section 1.121 is preferable since grammatical or idiomatic errors may be corrected." 1147 O.G. 29-40, at 36.

- a. ☐ are transmitted herewith.
- b. ☐ have been transmitted
 - i. ☐ by the International Bureau.
Date of mailing of the amendment (from form PCT/1B/308):
_____.
 - ii. ☐ by applicant on _____. (Date)
- c. ☒ have not been transmitted as
 - i. ☒ applicant chose not to make amendments under PCT Article 19.
Date of mailing of Search Report (from form PCT/ISA/210.):
12/20/00_____.
 - ii. ☐ the time limit for the submission of amendments has not yet expired. The amendments or a statement that amendments have not been made will be transmitted before the expiration of the time limit under PCT Rule 46.1.

6. ☒ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (38 U.S.C. § 371(c)(3)):

- a. ☐ is transmitted herewith.
- b. ☐ is not required as the amendments were made in the English language.
- c. ☒ has not been transmitted for reasons indicated at point 5(c) above.

7. ☒ A copy of the international examination report (PCT/IPEA/409)

- ☒ is transmitted herewith.
- ☐ is not required as the application was filed with the United States Receiving Office.

8. ☒ Annex(es) to the international preliminary examination report

- a. ☒ is/are transmitted herewith.
- b. ☐ is/are not required as the application was filed with the United States Receiving Office.

9. ☒ A translation of the annexes to the international preliminary examination report

- a. ☐ is transmitted herewith.
- b. ☒ is not required as the annexes are in the English language.

10. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(4)) complying with 35 U.S.C. § 115
- a. ☐ was previously submitted by applicant on _____. (Date)
 - b. ☐ is submitted herewith, and such oath or declaration
 - i. ☐ is attached to the application.
 - ii. ☐ identifies the application and any amendments under PCT Article 19 that were transmitted as stated in points 3(b) or 3(c) and 5(b); and states that they were reviewed by the inventor as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.70.
 - c. ☒ will follow.

II. Other document(s) or information included:

11. ☒ An International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210) or Declaration under PCT Article 17(2)(a):
- a. ☒ is transmitted herewith.
 - b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
Date of mailing (from form PCT/IB/308): _____.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was searched by the United States International Searching Authority.
 - d. ☐ will be transmitted promptly upon request.
 - e. ☐ has been submitted by applicant on _____. (Date)
12. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:
- a. ☒ is transmitted herewith.

Also transmitted herewith is/are:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449 (PTO/SB/08A and 08B).
 - ☐ Copies of citations listed.
 - b. ☐ will be transmitted within THREE MONTHS of the date of submission of requirements under 35 U.S.C. § 371(c).
 - c. ☐ was previously submitted by applicant on _____. (Date)
13. ☐ An assignment document is transmitted herewith for recording.
- A separate ☐ "COVER SHEET FOR ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) ACCOMPANYING NEW PATENT APPLICATION" or ☐ FORM PTO 1595 is also attached.

14. ☒ Additional documents:

- a. ☒ Copy of request (PCT/RO/101)
- b. ☒ International Publication No. W0 01/16931 A1
 - i. ☒ Specification, claims and drawing
 - ii. ☐ Front page only
- c. ☒ Preliminary amendment (37 C.F.R. § 1.121)
- d. ☒ Other

PCT/IB/308; PCT/IPEA/401; Written Opinion; Reply to Written Opinion;
PCT/IB/304; PCT/IB/306; Finnish Search Report

15. ☒ The above checked items are being transmitted

- a. ☒ before 30 months from any claimed priority date.
- b. ☐ after 30 months.

16. ☐ Certain requirements under 35 U.S.C. § 371 were previously submitted by the applicant on _____, namely:

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ADDITIONAL FEES

WARNING: Accurately count claims, especially multiple dependant claims, to avoid unexpected high charges if extra claims are authorized.

NOTE: "A written request may be submitted in an application that is an authorization to treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. An authorization to charge all required fees, fees under § 1.17, or all required extension of time fees will be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission. Submission of the fee set forth in § 1.17(a) will also be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission." 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

NOTE: "Amounts of twenty-five dollars or less will not be returned unless specifically requested within a reasonable time, nor will the payer be notified of such amounts; amounts over twenty-five dollars may be returned by check or, if requested, by credit to a deposit account." 37 C.F.R. § 1.26(a).

☒ Please charge, in the manner authorized above, the following additional fees that may be required by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application:

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(1), (2), (3), and (4) (filing fees)

WARNING: Because failure to pay the national fee within 30 months without extension (37 C.F.R. § 1.495(b)(2)) results in abandonment of the application, it would be best to always check the above box.

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.492(b), (c) and (d) (presentation of extra claims)

NOTE: Because additional fees for excess or multiple dependent claims not paid on filing or on later presentation must only be paid or these claims cancelled by amendment prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the PTO in any notice of fee deficiency (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(d)), it might be best not to authorize the PTO to charge additional claim fees, except possible when dealing with amendments after final action.

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (application processing fees)

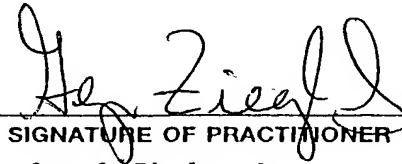
☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1)-(5) (extension fees pursuant to § 1.136(a).

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b))

NOTE: Where an authorization to charge the issue fee to a deposit account has been filed before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance, the issue fee will be automatically charged to the deposit account at the time of mailing the notice of allowance. 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b).

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b) requires "Notification of any change in loss of entitlement to small entity status must be filed in the application . . . prior to paying, or at the time of paying . . . issue fee." From the wording of 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b): (a) notification of change of status must be made even if the fee is paid as "other than a small entity" and (b) no notification is required if the change is to another small entity.

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.492(e) and (f) (surcharge fees for filing the declaration and/or filing an English translation of an International Application later than 30 months after the priority date).



SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.

Reg. No.: 44,004

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(type or print name of practitioner)

PERMAN & GREEN, LLP

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425 Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06430 USA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Express Mail No.: EL627512543US

Applicants: HOLM et al.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/FI00/00737

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 8/31/00

TITLE: METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR PROVIDING
CUSTOMIZED AUDIO CHARACTERISTICS TO CELLULAR TERMINALS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 297-010857-US (PAR)

Box PCT

Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified, patent application
as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the Title and before the first paragraph, please
insert the following new paragraph:

(New) This application claims the benefit of the
earlier filed International Application No.
PCT/FI00/00737, International Filing Date, August 31,
2000, which designated the United States of America,
and which international application was published
under PCT Article 21(2) in English as WO Publication
No. WO 01/16931 A1.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 through 32 that are included in the Preliminary Examination Report as Amended Sheets, without prejudice.

Please insert new claims 33 through 64 as follows:

(New) 33. A method for downloading audio characteristics to terminal equipment, comprising the steps of:

- providing a score information part describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,
- providing an instrument information part describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by said score information part,
- providing compatibility information describing the compatibility of said score information part and said instrument information part with certain processing and storing capacity and
- as a response to a selection command, downloading said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment through a communication network.

(New) 34. A method according to claim 33, additionally comprising the step of combining said score information part, said instrument information part and said compatibility information into a common sound packet structure, so that said step of downloading said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment corresponds to downloading said sound packet structure to terminal equipment.

(New) 35. A method according to claim 34, further comprising the steps of:

- providing a user interface sounds information part describing a plurality of user interface sounds and
- combining said user interface sounds information part to said sound packet structure prior to downloading said sound packet structure to terminal equipment.

(New) 36. A method according to claim 34, further comprising the steps of:

- providing a generic audio part describing at least one arbitrary sound sequence and
- combining said generic audio part to said sound packet structure prior to downloading said sound packet structure to terminal equipment.

(New) 37. A method according to claim 34, comprising the steps of:

- providing a database of a plurality of sound packets,
- as a response to a message from terminal equipment identifying the terminal equipment as being of a certain type, selecting from said database a number of sound packets the compatibility information of which shows them to be compatible with the known processing and storing capacity of terminal equipment of said certain type,
- offering said selected number of sound packets to the terminal equipment as alternatives for selection, and
- as a response to said selection command, downloading a selected one of said selected number of sound packets to terminal equipment through a communication network.

(New) 38. A method according to claim 37, additionally comprising prior to the step of identifying the terminal equipment as being of a certain type the step of:

- as a response to an initiation from said terminal equipment, requesting the terminal equipment to indicate its type.

(New) 39. A method according to claim 34, comprising prior to the step of combining said score information part, said instrument information part and said compatibility information into a common sound packet structure the step of:

- providing a database comprising a number of score information parts in a score information library and a number of instrument information parts in an instrument information library.

(New) 40. A method according to claim 33, wherein the step of providing a score information part comprises the substep of providing a plurality of score data subparts each of which describes the presentation instructions of a single piece of music.

(New) 41. A method according to claim 40, wherein the step of providing a score information part comprises the substep of providing a score information part in a MIDI form.

(New) 42. A method according to claim 33, wherein the step of providing an instrument information part comprises the substep of providing a plurality of instrument data subparts each of which describes one instrument for synthesizing an audible signal the

presentation instructions of which is described by said score information part.

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describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by a score information part,

- indicating at least one score information part and at least one instrument information part from said available score information parts and instrument information parts as selected, and
- receiving the score information part and the instrument information part indicated as selected from the network.

(New) 48. A method according to claim 47, comprising prior to the step of indicating the type of the terminal equipment to the network the steps of:

- initiating the downloading of audio characteristics by establishing a connection to a network device and
- receiving from said network device a request to indicate the type of the terminal equipment.

(New) 49. A method according to claim 47, additionally comprising the step of decrypting at least one of the received score information part and instrument information part.

(New) 50. A method for downloading audio characteristics to terminal equipment, comprising the steps of:

- providing a score information part describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,
- providing an instrument information part describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by said score information part,
- providing compatibility information describing the compatibility of said score information part and said

instrument information part with certain processing and storing capacity and

- transmitting said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment;

wherein the step of transmitting said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment comprises the substeps of multiplexing said instrument information part into a digital information stream and broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through a digital broadcasting network.

(New) 51. A method according to claim 50, wherein the step of transmitting said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of multiplexing said score information part into said digital information stream together with said instrument information part before broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through said digital broadcasting network.

(New) 52. A method according to claim 51, comprising the steps of:

- producing a plurality of mutually different sound packets by selecting a certain score information part and a certain instrument information part into each sound packet,
- multiplexing said plurality of sound packets into a digital information stream and broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through a digital broadcasting network, and
- repeating said step of multiplexing and broadcasting for a number of times.

(New) 53. A method according to claim 51, additionally comprising the steps of:

- identifying a piece of information related to said score information part and said instrument information part but coming from a different content source and
- synchronizing the multiplexing of a score information part and an instrument information part into said digital information stream with the multiplexing of said related piece of information into said digital information stream.

(New) 54. A method according to claim 51, wherein the step of transmitting said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of multiplexing said compatibility information into said digital information stream together with said instrument information part and score information part before broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through said digital broadcasting network.

(New) 55. A method according to claim 50, additionally comprising a step of receiving a piece of selection information from said terminal equipment, said selection information indicating said score information part and said instrument information part as being selected by said terminal equipment for downloading.

(New) 56. A method according to claim 50, wherein the substep of broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through a digital broadcasting network comprises the step of broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital

information stream through a digital broadcasting network in a Digital Video Broadcasting form.

(New) 57. A method according to claim 50, wherein the step of downloading said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of downloading said score information part to said terminal equipment through a point-to-point connection in a communication network.

(New) 58. A method according to claim 50, comprising the step of providing at least one of said score information part, instrument information part and compatibility information in encrypted form.

(New) 59. A method according to claim 50, wherein the step of downloading said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of encrypting at least one of said score information part and instrument information part.

(New) 60. An arrangement for downloading audio characteristics from a network to terminal equipment, said arrangement comprising a network device that in turn comprises:

- a database of score information parts, each score information part describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,
- a database of instrument information parts, each instrument information part describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by a score information part,

- compatibility information associated with said score information parts and instrument information parts, describing the compatibility of said score information parts and said instrument information parts with certain processing and storing capacity and
- means for responding to a selection command by downloading a score information part and a instrument information part to terminal equipment through a communication network.

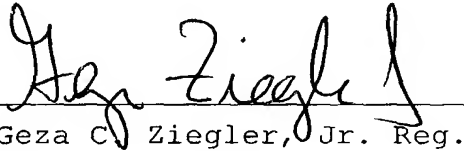
(New) 61. An arrangement according to claim 60, wherein said database of score information parts and said database of instrument information parts form a common database structure where each score information part is associated with at least one instrument information part to provide a sound packet structure, and said compatibility information is arranged to describe the compatibility of each sound packet with certain processing and storing capacity.

(New) 62. An arrangement according to claim 61, wherein said compatibility information is arranged to describe the compatibility of each sound packet with the processing and storing capacity of certain terminal types.

(New) 63. An arrangement according to claim 61, further comprising means for coupling selected score information parts and selected instrument information parts into a common sound packet structure for downloading.

(New) 64. An arrangement according to claim 61,
further comprising means for encrypting selected score
information parts and selected instrument information
parts.

Respectfully submitted,



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Method and arrangement for providing customized audio characteristics to cellular terminals

5 The invention concerns generally the technological field of furnishing terminal equipment of communication systems with selectable audio characteristics. Especially the invention concerns a method and arrangement for providing a large degree of selectability to individual users concerning ringing tones and other sounds emitted by their terminal equipment.

10 Portable terminals of cellular radio systems have conventionally been mobile telephones, but the development trend at the priority date of this patent application is towards more versatile terminal equipment with features from e.g. palmtop computers, telephones, positioning devices and personal digital assistants (PDAs). The conventional way of producing a ringing tone in a portable terminal is to use a
15 buzzer which is optimized for efficiency in producing a high output sound pressure level. The buzzers that are most commonly used only accept a single square wave as an input waveform. A square input wave on a constant frequency gives rise to a monophonic output buzz with constant pitch. It is possible to play simple monophonic melodies with the buzzer by composing the input signal as a sequence of relatively short square wave trains. It is possible to use the loudspeaker of the
20 mobile terminal to emit more versatile sounds, but in practice it may be difficult to obtain a reasonably high output sound pressure level without sacrificing compact size, efficiency in energy consumption and usability in the telephone mode.

Manufacturers have conventionally provided their mobile terminals with a selection of alternative ringing tones by storing a number of different buzzer input sequences
25 into the terminal's memory. A user can select one of these preprogrammed tones by performing a simple programming step. Practical experience has shown that consumers are eager to personalize their mobile terminals according to their own taste, which has led to a phenomenal success of services that sell downloadable ringing tones. The known method of downloading a ringing tone from a network
30 requires the user to send an SMS message (Short Messaging Services) to a certain ringing tone server coupled to the fixed parts of the cellular network, said message indicating the user's willingness to download a new ringing tone and preferably also identifying a particular melody which the user is interested in. The server responds with a specifically formatted SMS message that contains machine-readable

instructions which the portable terminal can use to reproduce the ringing tone in question.

Although the selectability and downloading services described above has concentrated on ringing tones, it would be possible to use similar methods and arrangements to select personal tones or melodies for all occasions when the portable terminal emits an indicative audio signal. Such occasions comprise but are not limited to indicator tones for key depressing, alarm sounds for battery depletion and other threatening events as well as amusing sounds for games.

The drawbacks of the prior art arrangements for providing selectability to portable terminals' audio characteristics are related to the limited sound reproduction capability on one hand and to the shortage of various resources on the other. With resources we mean the memory space and allocatable processing capability of the portable terminal itself as well as the allocatable transmission resources between the terminal and the fixed parts of the cellular radio network. We will illustrate the resource question with some examples.

At the priority date of this patent application one of the most popular ways of distributing arbitrary high quality audio sequences in electronic form is MP3 or MPEG-2 Layer 3 coded audio, where MPEG originally comes from Motion Picture Experts Group. The MP3 audio encoding is based on a method where an original audio sequence is recorded, digitized and compressed by performing a number of mathematical transformations on short consecutive frames of the digitized signal. One minute of MP3 encoded audio signal results in approximately 8 Mbits of data depending on the used compression rate. If we set the minimum temporal length of a ringing tone at ten seconds, a single melody would require over 1.3 Mbits of memory when stored. This is far too much regarding the limited amount of memory allocatable to ringing tones in known portable terminals. The downloading of such a ten-second audio sequence over the known GSM (Global System for Mobile telecommunications) digital cellular network at 9.6 kbit/s would take well over two minutes, which is unacceptable in terms of network loading and communication cost. Decoding an MP3 encoded bitstream into a for suitable for playback requires quite intensive processing.

At the priority date of this patent application there is one portable terminal on the market, known by the registered trademark "Nokia 9110 Communicator" of Nokia Corporation, that supports the playback of arbitrary audio tones encoded by Pulse Code Modulation or PCM. A typical 8-bit PCM encoded wave file that represents

ten seconds of emitted signal with relatively low audio quality has the size of 640 kbits. Although this is considerably less than what is required by the MP3 encoded sequence, it is still too much for large-scale downloading.

5 It is an object of the present invention to provide a method and an arrangement for offering a wide variety of selectable audio characteristics to the users of terminal equipment with reasonable requirements concerning memory space, processing capability and transmission resources. It is a further object of the invention to provide compatibility of the method and arrangement with a large selection of terminal types and operating software. An additional object of the invention is to
10 make it easy for the user to tailor the audio characteristics of terminal equipment according to personal taste.

The objects of the invention are achieved by presenting audio sequences in a form with a score information part and an instrument information part. The instrument information part contains synthesis parameters that define the timbre, or the
15 synthesized sound or sequence of sounds. The score information part contains instructions that define the usage of the instrument information. Additionally there is provided compatibility information describing the compatibility of such audio sequences with known terminal capabilities.

The method according to the first embodiment of the invention is characterized in
20 that it comprises the steps of

- providing a score information part describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,
- providing an instrument information part describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by
25 said score information part,
- providing compatibility information describing the compatibility of said score information part and said instrument information part with certain processing and storing capacity and
- as a response to a selection command, downloading said score information part
30 and said instrument information part to terminal equipment through a communication network.

The method according to the second embodiment of the invention is characterized in that it comprises the steps of

- indicating the type of terminal equipment to a network,

- receiving from the network information concerning available score information parts, each of them describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal, and instrument information parts, each of them describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by a score information part,
- indicating at least one score information part and at least one instrument information part from said available score information parts and instrument information parts as selected, and
- receiving the score information part and the instrument information part indicated as selected from the network.

The invention also applies to an apparatus which comprises a network device. It is characterized in that the network device comprises

- a database of score information parts, each score information part describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,
- a database of instrument information parts, each instrument information part describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by a score information part,
- compatibility information associated with said score information parts and instrument information parts, describing the compatibility of said score information parts and said instrument information parts with certain processing and storing capacity and
- means for responding to a selection command by downloading a score information part and a instrument information part to terminal equipment through a communication network.

According to the invention a service provider or a similarly acting other body maintains a database that comprises a plurality of sound packets. A sound packet is understood in this context as an entity that comprises a piece of musical score information and a set of parameters that relate to the "instruments" or synthesized sound sources which should be used to play the score. A sound packet is preferably self-contained in the sense that once it has been loaded into terminal equipment with appropriate processing and audio outputting capabilities, it enables the terminal to output a certain passage of audio signal where the synthesized sounds described by the parameters perform the presentation written into the score information. Said database contains also information about the compatibility of the stored sound packets with the capabilities of known terminal types. For downloading into a

certain terminal equipment of known type only those sound packets are made available that do not exceed the terminal's capabilities.

The novel features which are considered as characteristic of the invention are set forth in particular in the appended Claims. The invention itself, however, both as to its construction and its method of operation, together with additional objects and advantages thereof, will be best understood from the following description of specific embodiments when read in connection with the accompanying drawings.

Fig. 1 illustrates the structure of a sound packet according to an advantageous embodiment of the invention,

10 Fig. 2a illustrates an advantageous database arrangement,

Fig. 2b illustrates another advantageous database arrangement,

Fig. 3 illustrates an alternative database arrangement,

Fig. 4 is a flow diagram of a method according to the invention,

Fig. 5a illustrates a software tool for applying the invention,

15 Fig. 5b illustrates further software tools for applying the invention,

Fig. 6 illustrates some communication connections that can be used for applying the invention,

Fig. 7 illustrates some pieces of hardware in a terminal according to the invention and

20 Fig. 8 illustrates a broadcasting-based embodiment of the invention.

The idea of organizing a piece of music electronically into a score information part and a parameter or instrument information part is known as such. In the following we will first describe some known solutions of this kind.

25 Within the field of musical synthesizers there are known the concepts of patches and patch maps. Each stored synthesized instrument sound is designated with an associated patch number, and the table that correlates patch numbers with instruments is known as the patch map. One of the major standards controlling musical synthesizing and exchange of information related thereto between electronic devices is MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface). It is possible to

compose a piece of synthesized music with one synthesizer and transfer it in digital form into another synthesizer. The digital representation of the piece of music contains information about e.g. which patch number(s) should be associated with each individual "channel" or voice in a musical score. If a receiving synthesizer uses the same patch map as the one with which the piece was composed, it is able to playback the piece exactly as it was at the composing stage. Within MIDI the most commonly used standard for instrument mapping is known as the GM or General MIDI. Known extensions to it are known as XG, GS and GM 2.0.

None of these instrument mapping standards actually describes how the actual instrument voice should be produced. Known sound synthesis technologies are e.g. FM (Frequency Modulation), wavetable synthesis and physical modelling.

For downloading sounds that can be associated to patch numbers in a patch map a SoundFont® file format has been introduced by Creative Labs Corporation where a collection of 16-bit digital samples is associated with synthesis information required to articulate the digital signal in the audio domain. The MIDI Manufacturers Association or MMA has also introduced a sound sample downloading format known as Downloadable Sounds level 1 (DLS-1). Recently these sound downloading formats have been merged into a new standard known as DLS-2. It is also known as SASBF or Structured Audio Sample Bank Format within the MPEG-4 multimedia standard. Commercial implementations of DLS-2 do not exist at the priority date of this patent application.

Staccato Systems Inc. has introduced an audio technology known as SynthScript® Down Loadable Algorithms or DLA, which is based on physical modelling of instrument voices. A processing engine known as the SynthCore® is required to convert a SynthScriptDLA text file into playing music. The processing engine also supports the GM, XG and DLS-1 synthesis mechanisms referred to above.

Additionally there is known a musical data file format known as the Rich Music Format or RMF. It determines how a single file format can be used to incorporate all sample, performance and copyright information of a piece of music. The performance portion is based on the MIDI file model with some extended control functions.

Although the above-described methods and arrangements for representing audio sequences are known to the public at the priority date of the present patent application, they are not directly applicable to ringtone and other audio

characteristics download services for portable terminal. In the following we describe the method and apparatus according to the invention, making use of the above-mentioned known concepts at appropriate points.

Fig.1 illustrates the conceptual composition of a sound packet according to an advantageous embodiment of the invention. The sound packet 100 comprises a score information part 101 which may be regarded as a song book or music case that contains the notes which should be played and relate synthesis instructions. The score information part may consist of score data subparts 102, 103 each of which comprises the score of a single song. Each score data subpart may further comprise sub-subparts each of which comprises the score of a single voice in that song. Additionally the sound packet comprises a instrument information part 104 which contains the instrument data, i.e. the parameters that a musical synthesizer needs to set up the "band" that should be used to play the score(s) contained in the score information part 101. These parameters are most advantageously organized into instrument data subparts 105, 106 so that each instrument data subpart defines a single instrument that may be used to play one or more of the voices defined by the score information subparts 102, 103.

Previously we have noted that the invention does not concern only the generation of ringing tones but it can be applied to the generation of other indicative audio signal as well. We may designate the latter class of voices generally as User Interface or UI sounds. In the embodiment of Fig. 1 the sound packet may comprise a UI sounds part 107 which again may consist of one or more UI sound data subparts 108, 109. Each UI sound data subpart 108, 109 is an entity based on which the terminal equipment is able to generate a certain UI sound. Because the UI sounds are usually simple tones or very short melodies, the UI sound data subparts may be represented in very simple form that is different from score information. Naturally they can also be complete score data subparts like those 102, 103 shown under the score information part 101 so that an arbitrary piece of music can be performed as a UI sound by associating the score information contained in the UI sound data subpart(s) with corresponding instrument data subpart(s). It is also possible to have alternative instrument data subparts as UI sound data subparts so that the scores presented in the score information part produce either a ringing tone or some UI sound(s) depending on whether they are played with the "band" defined in the instrument information part 104 or the UI sounds part 107 respectively. An even further alternative is to have both score data subparts and instrument data subparts within the UI sounds part 107. If the invention is applied only to distribute and

download ringing tones, the UI sounds part 107 and its subparts 108, 109 are not needed.

Additionally Fig. 1 shows an optional generic audio part 110 as a part of the sound packet. The generic audio part 110 may consists of generic audio subparts 111, 112 etc., each of which comprises a generic audio signal. The generic audio part 110 is included in the sound packet model to provide a possibility to transmit an arbitrary audio sequence or a number of such sequences as a part of the sound packet. The form of the generic audio part 110 or its subparts is not limited by the invention, but it can be e.g. MP3 or speech encoded with one of the speech encoding methods known in the field of speech processing. If the invention is applied only to distribute and download melodical ringing tones, the generic audio part 110 is not needed.

In order to facilitate the handling of sound packets it is advantageous to include into the sound packet structure a header part 121 which comprises general information like an identifier 122 of the sound packet, compatibility information 123 describing the compatibility of the sound packet with different known terminal types or just laying out some minimum allocatable resources (like processing capacity in MIPS and allocatable memory in kbits) required to use the sound packet, and copyright information 124 concerning the sound packet if applicable. The invention does not limit the contents of the header part 121.

A separate header part could also be included in each score information part 101, instrument information part 104, UI sounds part 107 and/or generic audio part 110, or even to every subpart and/or sub-subpart. Such header part could comprise e.g. specified copyright information and/or resource requirement information concerning only that part of the sound packet.

The sound packet approach illustrated in Fig. 1 differs from the known MIDI principle of downloading a piece of music mainly in that the instrument information part 104 that defines the "band" used to play the transmitted piece of music is contained within the same data structure 100 that in another part describes the actual music itself. In order to convey a MIDI music performance in its original form, the same patch map and the same set of instrument data has to be used for the synthesis of the music. Taken the considerable versatility and size of the patch maps of e.g. GM 2.0, a large number of the instrument descriptions would probably never be needed (a classical music enthusiast would probably never download a ringing tone that requires the instrument descriptions of heavy rock guitars). Furthermore, the number of different sounds needed for creative music is infinite. It is impossible to

create a fixed collection of sounds that could satisfy the requirements of all musicians and content providers of the priority date of this patent application, not to mention the ever-expanding future requirements. The invention obviates the need for storing a large number of instrument descriptions in the limited memory space of a portable terminal. According to the preferable embodiment of the invention the parameter data parts that define the instruments are transmitted concerning only those instruments that are actually needed to perform the chosen pieces of music.

The size of a sound packet 100 in bits, as well as the processing capability required to playback the piece of music described therein in intended tempo, will depend heavily on the used synthesis technology, the accuracy and quality of the synthesized sounds, the diversity of the band or number of different instrument sounds, and the number of simultaneous voices, i.e. polyphony. It is possible to compose e.g. a very simple sound packet where only a single coarsely encoded instrument voice plays one or few notes, or an immensely complex sound packet where a doubled symphony orchestra with high-quality instrument voices performs a Wagner overture backwards in quadrupled tempo. The processing capacity required to decode and playback a sound packet is mostly determined by the degree of polyphony associated with the song to be played, i.e. the number of simultaneously playing voices.

A part of the invention is that it is somehow indicated, what are the resource requirements of a certain sound packet and/or which known terminal equipment types it is compatible with. Compatibility with a certain terminal equipment type means in this context that it is known that a normal terminal equipment of that type has enough allocatable memory and processing capability to download, store and playback that sound packet. Above we have noted that one way of indicating compatibility is to provide within the sound packet a header part where compatibility with known terminal types or the minimum amount of allocatable resources is explicitly recited. However, the compatibility information need not be an explicit part of the sound packet at all.

The invention does not limit the form of the score information part and the instrument information part, although it is regarded as advantageous to use a form taken from the above-mentioned existing standards. A score information part of a sound packet may be quite compact relative to the instrument information part. In practice, score information parts and instrument information parts are represented in different forms. It is possible e.g. to use the known SMS format, SAOL format or Csound score data format for scores, and a wavetable or physical modelling method

for the instruments. It is also possible to use a common RMF or Rich Music Format file that encompasses both the score information part and the instrument information part.

Fig. 2a illustrates a structure of sound packets stored in a database schematically shown as 200. Said database is most advantageously maintained in a service provider's computer with fixed connections to a cellular radio network. The sound packets themselves 201, 202, 203, 204, 205 and 206 are most advantageously stored only once, i.e. only one copy (except for a potential back-up copy) of each sound packet appears in the database. In order to make only those sound packets available to a particular terminal type that are compatible with the allocatable resources in that terminal type the database or its associated handling functions comprises a terminal type selector block 213 as well as a number of terminal type blocks 211, 212 and 213. Each terminal type block is a collection of pointers where each pointer points to one sound packet which is known to be compatible with the terminal type in question. The idea behind this arrangement is that when a query is made to the database, it is first checked by the functions of block 213 whether the query comprises an indication of a particular terminal type. If such an indication is found, the appropriate terminal type block 211, 212 or 213 is called and the pointers in the called terminal type block are noted so that only those sound packets are made available for querying that are compatible with the terminal type in question. It is left to the discretion of eventual implementers to decide, whether a query with no terminal type indication is answered by making no sound packets available, by making all sound packets available or in some other way. The invention does not limit the number of sound packets or terminal type blocks in the database, or the number of pointer connections between a terminal type block and sound packets.

Fig. 2b illustrates an alternative database arrangement where a database 200' again comprises a number of sound packets 201, 202, 203, 204, 205 and 206. Instead of a terminal type based selection arrangement the database or its associated handling functions comprise a compatibility wizard 220. When a query is made to the database, the compatibility wizard 220 checks whether the query comprises an indication of allocatable memory space and processing capability. If such indications exist, the compatibility wizard 220 checks from the known capacity requirements of the sound packets 201, 202, 203, 204, 205 and 206 which of them are within the limits set by the indicated allocatable memory space and processing capability. The compatibility wizard 220 then makes only those sound packets available for querying that are compatible with the indicated allocatable resources.

Other arrangements than those in Figs. 2a and 2b are easily presented by persons skilled in the art for making a limited number of database entries available for querying when a query comprises an indication of limitations concerning the characteristics of the objects to be queried.

5 Fig. 3 illustrates an alternative, more versatile approach to implementing the database of sound packets with associated information about compatibility with terminal types or otherwise determined availability of resources. The database 300 does not consist of complete sound packets; instead, the sound packet components are separately stored in appropriate libraries, and sound packets are only assembled
10 for delivery according to order. The score information library 301 comprises a number of score information parts 302, 303 each of which is analogous to the score information part 101 in Fig. 1. In other words each score information part in Fig. 3 may further comprise an arbitrary number of score data subparts and sub-subparts. In order to maintain graphical clarity these are not separately shown in Fig. 3.
15 Similarly an instrument information library 304 comprises a number of instrument information parts 305, 306, each of which may further comprise an arbitrary number of instrument data subparts (not separately shown in Fig. 3), and a UI sounds library 307 comprises a number of UI sounds parts 308, 309, each of which may further comprise an arbitrary number of UI sound data subparts (not separately shown in
20 Fig. 3). For completeness also a generic audio library 310 is shown. It may further comprise an arbitrary number of generic audio files 311, 312.

The operation of the database 300 in Fig. 3 is coordinated by a compatibility wizard and sound packet generator block 313 which may have a number of general information subblocks at its disposal. A sound packet ID and header generator block
25 314, a resource requirements analyzer block 315 and a copyrights database 316 are specifically shown in Fig. 3.

The database and function structure shown in Fig. 3 can be used for tailoring sound packets to the need and taste of individual users in a very versatile way. The compatibility wizard and sound packet generator block 313 is arranged to
30 communicate with a user to find out the user's terminal type (or otherwise specified limitations concerning available resources), the selection of desired score(s) and the selection of desired instrumentation. Based on this information the compatibility wizard and sound packet generator block 313 is arranged to compose one or more sound packets by selecting the appropriate score information part(s) from the score
35 information library 301, the appropriate instrument information part(s) from the instrument information library 304 and possibly the appropriate UI sounds part(s)

and/or the appropriate generic audio parts from the corresponding libraries 307 and 310 respectively. Additionally the compatibility wizard and sound packet generator block 313 is arranged to check from the resource requirements analyzer block 315 that the resource requirements of the sound packet to be assembled do not exceed the capabilities of the terminal for which the sound packet is assembled. If the sound packet ordered by the user seems to become too complex for the available resources, the compatibility wizard and sound packet generator block 313 may be arranged to simplify it by e.g. reducing the degree of polyphony, changing wavetable resolution from 16 to 8 bits or adjusting a sampling frequency. Such simplifying may take place with the explicit consent of the ordering user or automatically. The compatibility wizard and sound packet generator block 313 is also arranged to equip the sound packet with a suitable identifier, copyright information and other header constituents with the help of blocks 314 and 316.

Previously we have noted that a score information part corresponds roughly to a song book, a score data subpart corresponds to a song in the song book and a score data sub-subpart corresponds to the notes of a single voice in the song. In a very versatile embodiment following the database architecture of Fig. 3 there could be a score data subpart library or "song library" where the score data subparts are stored, and a score information part library where the score information parts would only consist of links to predetermined score data subparts in the library. The compatibility wizard and sound packet generator block 313 would then be arranged to either pick among the already made score information parts or to compose customized score information parts on the fly according to an order from a user.

Within the embodiment of Fig. 3 it would be advantageous to include a separate header field with e.g. copyright information into each score information part, instrument information part, UI sounds part and/or generic audio part, or even to every subpart and/or sub-subpart, because otherwise such part-related information would be rather difficult to manage.

Fig. 4 illustrates an exemplary method for downloading a sound packet from a database according to Fig. 2a or 2b. At step 401 the user initiates the procedure by e.g. starting a network browser application in his terminal and asking for a connection to a certain network address which he knows to lead to the homepage of the sound packet downloading service. At step 402 the terminal performs the corresponding action, which in the above-mentioned case means contacting the given network address in a way known as such. In Fig. 4 we have assumed that the connection request to the database does not as such reveal the terminal type, so at

step 403 the database asks for it by e.g. sending a list of the terminal types it recognizes. At step 403 the list is displayed to the user who makes a selection at step 405; the selection is forwarded to the database at step 406.

5 It is possible to make the terminal type identification automatic in order to get rid of steps 403 to 406. The most straightforward way of doing this is to make the terminal send its type identification to the database already at step 402. The terminal type may be explicitly given, or the terminal may transmit for example its IMEI code (International Mobile Equipment Identifier) or a corresponding code a part of which is the serial number of the terminal. The manufacturers usually apply some
10 systematics in appointing serial numbers to different terminal types so it may be possible to arrange the database to compare the transmitted serial number to a simple table and deduce the terminal type according to the range of serial numbers into which the transmitted terminal number falls. Another way of at least partly simplifying steps 403 to 406 is to make the database place its request 403 for the
15 terminal type in such machine-readable form that the terminal does not need to bother the user with steps 404 and 405; the terminal could send its type-indicating answer 406 automatically.

In any case we assume that the database has become aware of the terminal type or otherwise specified limitations concerning allocatable capacity. At step 407 the
20 database composes a selection list consisting of only those stored sound packets which are compatible with the indicated terminal type. At step 408 it sends the composed selection list to the terminal, which displays it to the user at step 409. The user makes his selection at step 410 and the terminal forwards it to the database at step 411. This triggers the actual downloading at step 412. The downloaded sound
25 packet is stored into the memory of the terminal at step 413. If necessary, a previously stored sound packet is at the same time removed from the memory either automatically or after having asked the user for confirmation. The completion of the downloading is indicated to the user at step 414.

In Fig. 4 we have assumed that the user wants to download also another sound
30 packet. Therefore he answers the completion indication 414 with a continuation command 415. The previously received selection information is still in the terminal's memory, so a new inquiry to the database is not needed before the terminal can again display the selection list at step 416. Steps 417 to 421 are exact copies of previously described steps 410 to 414. At step 422 the user ends the
35 downloading by giving an appropriate command to the terminal.

A composer tool or sequencer 512 also appears in Fig. 5b. It is the software tool for composing new music in machine-readable form. It too is most advantageously

equipped with a compatibility unit, the role of which is to make sure that a certain score file will be possible to be played back taken the polyphonic capabilities of a certain terminal type, i.e. the processing capabilities available for processing a number of simultaneous voices. A sounds editor tool 513 is shown for producing new instrument data subparts and/or editing old ones, and for combining instrument data subparts into instrument information parts that represents bands. The invention does not limit the synthesis technology used by the sounds editor tool 513. A compatibility unit is again most advantageously provided for adapting the instrument information parts to the known amount of allocatable memory in known terminal types. Together the composer tool 512 and the sounds editor tool 513 form a set of advanced software tools that may require some audio expertise to be used successfully. The outputs of the composer tool 512 and sounds editor tool 513 can be used as the inputs of the combiner / converter tool 511.

Fig. 6 illustrates some communication connections that can be used as channels for downloading sound packets to terminal equipment 601 from one or several databases 602 and 603. If the database 602 is directly connected to a telephone network there may be a direct data call connection between it and the terminal equipment 601. If the database 602 is connected to the Internet 604 or corresponding widespread packet-switched communication network and the terminal equipment 601 is capable of packet radio services, the connection may take the form of a known Internet connection; in this embodiment the file transfer tool to be used between the terminal equipment 601 and the database would be a network browser. There may also be a connection from the Internet 604 through a modem 605 to a desktop computer 606 or a laptop computer 607 which may function as an intermediate stopping point for the sound packets. Once downloaded from the database into a "local" computer 606 or 607 a sound packet may be further transferred to the terminal equipment 601 either directly through a cable connection, an LPRF (Low Power Radio Frequency) link or infrared link, or using an intermediating auxiliary such as the infrared transceiver 608 in Fig. 6.

A personal digital assistant or PDA 609 may also be used to communicate a sound packet to the terminal equipment 601 by any means including but not being limited to data calls, infrared connections, LPRF connections and direct cable. The PDA 609 may have received the sound packet either directly from a database or from the devices 605, 606, 607 or 608 of the above-explained PC computer environment. Another possible sound packet communication channel is through a bidirectional TV / Set Top Box connection and a corresponding device 610. Naturally data calls,

infrared connections, LPRF connections, direct cables and other means may be used to transfer sound packets from other portable terminals 611 or older mobile telephones 612.

Fig. 7 illustrates schematically the hardware requirements which the present invention sets to terminal equipment 701. A transceiver must be provided in order to establish and maintain the communication connections that are required to contact the databases or other devices from which a sound packet should be downloaded and to perform the actual downloading. Terminal equipment will by its nature comprise a radio transceiver, so the invention only requires that the data transfer capacity of the transceiver is high enough for transferring a sound packet in a reasonable time. Taken that the most advanced technology in portable terminals of the priority date of this patent application enable the transmission of real-time video, the capacity constraints for the transceiver 702 are not very demanding.

The terminal equipment 701 also needs to comprise a processor 703 with its associated circuitry so that it is able to convert the digital information contained within a sound packet into an audio frequency signal that can be lead to an acoustic transducer. The required processing capability is not exceptionally high if the previously explained file formats are used which have lower degree of polyphony than e.g. the minimum polyphony of the GM-1 or GM-2 specification. The same applies to the memory 704: as long as the sound packet approach is used to guarantee that only that information need to be stored that will actually be used for reproducing the desired acoustic functions, the memory technology of the priority date of this patent application suffices for implementing the required amount of memory into terminal equipment.

Finally the terminal equipment 701 needs to comprise an acoustic transducer 705 that is preferably more advanced than the monophonic square-wave driven buzzers of conventional mobile telephones. Constructing small-sized lightweight loudspeakers is not difficult as such, so it is merely a conventional engineering task to select a suitable transducer type and integrate it to the structures of the terminal equipment.

The architecture of the terminal equipment 701 must enable the communication of received information from the transceiver 702 to the processor 703 and further to the memory 704. Additionally the processor 703 must be able to read data from the memory 704 and to transmit it over the transceiver 702 to a cellular radio network. For emitting the audible signals represented in sound packets the processor 703

must be able to read stored sound packet data from the memory 704, to process it into an audio frequency signal and to direct the result to the transducer 705 for converting it into acoustic form. All these connections are easily implemented by a person skilled in the art.

- 5 We will conclude by discussing an alternative approach to the actual transmission of sound packets between a database coupled to a network and a number of terminals. Previously we have assumed that each downloading of a sound packet takes place at an explicit order from a certain terminal so that the sound packet is delivered to that terminal only. No actual limitations have been placed regarding the transmission
10 channel, but there is certain implicit pointing towards point-to-point connections through cellular radio networks and/or packet-switched communication networks between computers. However, it is possible to arrange for a broadcast-type delivery of sound packets either so that a certain collection of sound packets is transmitted at certain intervals irrespective of whether some terminal has ordered a transmission or
15 not, or so that each terminal has at least a limited opportunity of influencing the selection of sound packets that is available through broadcasting.

Fig. 8 illustrates an arrangement where the sound packet database 801 is regarded equal to other content sources 802 of a broadcast-type transmission network. As an example of such a transmission network we may consider a digital television
20 network that uses the known DVB (Digital Video Broadcasting) standard for transmitting multiplexed streams of digital data with a relatively high transmission capacity. In that case the other content sources 802 could comprise e.g. movies read from a digital storage medium and online television programs recorded in a studio.

From the sound packet database 801 and the other content sources 802 there are
25 connections to a multiplexing and channel encoding block 803 which is a part of a larger transmission station 804. Said multiplexing and channel encoding block 803 constructs a multiplexed transmission stream according to the employed standard(s), e. g. DVB, and feeds it into a broadcast transmitter 805, also known as the head-end. The multiplexed transmission stream is transmitted through a broadcast
30 transmission channel 806 which may be e.g. a cable television network or a radio transmission system involving repeater stations in link masts and/or in satellites.

A terminal system 807 comprises a receiver 808 that is arranged to receive and at least partially decode the received multiplexed transmission stream. Partial decoding means in this context that the receiver may be able to decode one or few
35 components of the multiplexed transmission stream even when it is unable to touch

the other components. In this patent application we discuss the use of sound packets, so we may assume that the receiver and decoder block 808 is able to decode at least that part of the multiplexed transmission stream that contains the information originally obtained from the sound packet database 801. The decoded
5 information is fed into a processor 809 and a memory 810, and based on this information the processor 809 is able to construct an audio frequency signal stream that is fed into the acoustic transducer 811 for outputting an acoustic signal. A receiving buffer may be needed between blocks 808 and 809.

Up to this point the arrangement of Fig. 8 has been unidirectional in the sense that
10 no uplink channels from the terminal system 807 to the sound packet database 801 have been described. However, we may assume that at least in some embodiments the terminal system 807 comprises a transmitter 812, and an uplink channel 813 exists. It may go through the same network that implements the broadcast transmission channel 806, if the technology of bidirectionality known from the field
15 of interactive television is used. Alternatively the uplink channel 813 may be completely independent, as is shown in Fig. 8, and go e.g. through a digital cellular packet-switched communications network or other known networks.

It should be noted that the terminal system 807 need not be a single device. It can involve two or more devices like a cable television receiver with integrated set-top
20 box features and a mobile telephone. The local communication connection between them may exploit one or several of the short-range communication technologies referred to in association with Fig. 6 above. Although the mobile telephone is in such an arrangement implicitly taken to be the ultimate receiver of a sound packet, the invention does not preclude the use of the sound packet(s) also within the cable
25 television receiver or other consumer electronic devices.

A unidirectional embodiment of distributing sound packets through an arrangement according to Fig. 8 could work as follows. The sound packet database 801 maintains the collection of data packets as described previously and feeds a selection of sound packets in the form of a digital input stream into the multiplexer and channel
30 encoder block 803 according to a predetermined timetable. If the stored selection of sound packets in the database is very large, it may not be useful to transmit all of them through the broadcasting system, especially if the sound packet database is also accessible through the Internet or other bidirectional communication network for specified delivery orders. The sound packet database 801 could feed into the
35 multiplexer and channel encoder block 803 a "top 100" selection of most popular sound packets or other limited subset of all stored sound packets. Alternatively or

A simple "semi-bidirectional" embodiment of distributing sound packets through an arrangement according to Fig. 8 could work as follows. In the absence of any orders from the terminal systems the database 801 does not feed any sound packets into the multiplexer and channel encoder block 803, whereby the corresponding downlink broadcasting capacity is left free, or feeds into it a "top 100" group of sound packets as in the unidirectional embodiment, or feeds only selection information that the terminal system and its user may use to identify a desired sound packet. If the user of the terminal system is able to identify a sound packet that is not currently available but that could be ordered from the database 801, he uses the transmitter 812 to transmit a corresponding selection information to the database. As soon as the sound packet database 801 has received an order from a terminal system through an unidirectional uplink channel 813, it feeds the corresponding selected sound

packet into the multiplexer and channel encoder block 803 instead of or in addition to the previously fed sound packets, if any. The ordered sound packet gets broadcast to multiple potentially receiving terminal systems. If it should be assured that only the recipient that ordered the packet is able to use it, the transmitter 812 may
5 include an encryption key in the order message so that the database can encrypt the sound packet before transmission.

A more versatile and truly bidirectional arrangement could be such where the terminal system 807 and the sound packet database 801 conducted an initiation, terminal type identification and selection process like steps 401 to 411 in Fig. 4 over
10 a bidirectional point-to-point channel, and only the selected sound packet would be broadcast. Also this embodiment could use encryption to ensure that only the correct recipient is able to actually use a certain delivered sound packet. The main advantage of the broadcasting system is its high capacity in transferring entities like larger sound packet files, so it is probably not advantageous to use the broadcasting
15 channel for exchanging simple information like selections. A hybrid bidirectional embodiment could be otherwise like said truly bidirectional arrangement, but use the broadcast channel also for providing a large amount of information describing the sound packets available for downloading (i.e. for implementing steps 408 and 409 in Fig. 4).

20 An advantageous addition to the invention is the use of encryption to protect sound packets and/or their parts against illegal copying, editing or use after a predetermined time limit etc. The sound packets or their parts may be stored in the databases in already encrypted form, or the encryption may take place dynamically in association with the downloading to terminal equipment. The terminal equipment
25 must naturally then be equipped with suitable decryption means. The use of encryption for protecting stored and/or transmitted pieces of digital data is known as such. The invention does not limit the nature or implementation of the encrypting - decrypting process.

Although we have in the foregoing discussed exclusively the possibility of storing
30 audio-related presentation instructions to the score information parts, the invention may also be applied to the transfer of other kinds of presentation information, like MIDI-type control commands for lighting or synchronized karaoke words for the songs to be performed.

Claims

1. A method for downloading audio characteristics to terminal equipment, **characterized** in that it comprises the steps of
 - providing a score information part (101, 302, 303) describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,
 - providing an instrument information part (104, 305, 306) describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by said score information part,
 - providing compatibility information (123, 210, 211, 212, 220, 315) describing the compatibility of said score information part and said instrument information part with certain processing and storing capacity and
 - as a response to a selection command (411, 418), downloading (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment through a communication network.
2. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that it comprises additionally the step of combining said score information part (101), said instrument information part (104) and said compatibility information (123) into a common sound packet structure (100), so that said step of downloading (412) said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment corresponds to downloading said sound packet structure to terminal equipment.
3. A method according to claim 2, **characterized** in that it further comprises the steps of
 - providing a user interface sounds information part (107) describing a plurality of user interface sounds and
 - combining said user interface sounds information part (107) to said sound packet structure (100) prior to downloading said sound packet structure to terminal equipment.
4. A method according to claim 2, **characterized** in that it further comprises the steps of
 - providing a generic audio part (110) describing at least one arbitrary sound sequence and
 - combining said generic audio part (110) to said sound packet structure (100) prior to downloading said sound packet structure to terminal equipment.

5. A method according to claim 2, **characterized** in that it comprises the steps of

- providing a database (200, 200') of a plurality of sound packets,
- as a response to a message (406) from terminal equipment identifying the terminal equipment as being of a certain type, selecting (407) from said database a number of
- 5 sound packets the compatibility information of which shows them to be compatible with the known processing and storing capacity of terminal equipment of said certain type,
- offering (408) said selected number of sound packets to the terminal equipment as alternatives for selection, and
- 10 - as a response to said selection command (411, 418), downloading (412, 419) a selected one of said selected number of sound packets to terminal equipment through a communication network.

6. A method according to claim 5, **characterized** in that prior to the step of identifying the terminal equipment as being of a certain type it additionally

- 15 comprises the step of

- as a response to an initiation (402) from said terminal equipment, requesting (403) the terminal equipment to indicate its type.

7. A method according to claim 2, **characterized** in that prior to the step of combining said score information part, said instrument information part and said

- 20 compatibility information into a common sound packet structure it comprises the step of

- providing a database (300) comprising a number of score information parts (302, 303) in a score information library (301) and a number of instrument information parts (305, 306) in an instrument information library (304).

8. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the step of providing a score information part (101) comprises the substep of providing a plurality of score data subparts (102, 103) each of which describes the presentation instructions of a

- 25 single piece of music.

9. A method according to claim 8, **characterized** in that the step of providing a score information part (101) comprises the substep of providing a score information

- 30 part in a MIDI form.

10. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the step of providing an instrument information part (104) comprises the substep of providing a plurality of instrument data subparts (105, 106) each of which describes one instrument for

11. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the steps of providing a score information part (101) and providing an instrument information part (104) together constitute a superstep of generating a file in a Rich Music Format form.

12. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the steps of providing a score information part (101) and providing an instrument information part (104) together constitute a superstep of generating a file in a MPEG-4 form.

13. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that it comprises the step of providing at least one of said score information part (101, 302, 303), instrument information part (104, 305, 306) and compatibility information (123, 210, 211, 212, 220, 315) in encrypted form.

14. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the step of downloading (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment comprises the substep of encrypting at least one of said score information part and instrument information part.

15. A method for downloading audio characteristics from a network to terminal equipment, **characterized** in that it comprises the steps of

- indicating (406) the type of the terminal equipment to the network,
- receiving (408) from the network information concerning available score information parts (101, 302, 303), each of them describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal, and instrument information parts (104, 305, 306), each of them describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by a score information part,
- indicating (411, 418) at least one score information part and at least one instrument information part from said available score information parts and instrument information parts as selected, and
- receiving (412, 419) the score information part and the instrument information part indicated as selected from the network.

16. A method according to claim 15, **characterized** in that it comprises, prior to the step of indicating (406) the type of the terminal equipment to the network, the steps of

- initiating (402) the downloading of audio characteristics by establishing a connection to a network device and

- receiving (403) from said network device a request to indicate the type of the terminal equipment.

17. A method according to claim 15, **characterized** in that comprises additionally the step of decrypting at least one of the received score information part and instrument information part.

18. A method for downloading audio characteristics to terminal equipment, **characterized** in that it comprises the steps of

- providing a score information part (101, 302, 303) describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,

- providing an instrument information part (104, 305, 306) describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by said score information part,

- providing compatibility information (123, 210, 211, 212, 220, 315) describing the compatibility of said score information part and said instrument information part with certain processing and storing capacity and

- transmitting (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment;

wherein the step of transmitting (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment comprises the substeps of multiplexing (803) said instrument information part into a digital information stream and broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through a digital broadcasting network (804, 806).

19. A method according to claim 18, **characterized** in that the step of transmitting (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of multiplexing (803) said score information part into said digital information stream together with said instrument information part before broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through said digital broadcasting network (804, 806).

20. A method according to claim 19, **characterized** in that it comprises the steps of

- producing a plurality of mutually different sound packets by selecting a certain score information part and a certain instrument information part into each sound packet,

- multiplexing (803) said plurality of sound packets into a digital information stream and broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through a digital broadcasting network (804, 806), and
- repeating said step of multiplexing and broadcasting for a number of times.

5 21. A method according to claim 19, **characterized** in that it additionally comprises the steps of

- identifying a piece of information related to said score information part and said instrument information part but coming from a different content source and
- synchronizing the multiplexing of a score information part and an instrument

10 information part into said digital information stream with the multiplexing of said related piece of information into said digital information stream.

22. A method according to claim 19, **characterized** in that the step of transmitting (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part towards terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of multiplexing (803) said

15 compatibility information into said digital information stream together with said instrument information part and score information part before broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through said digital broadcasting network (804, 806).

23. A method according to claim 18, **characterized** in that it additionally

20 comprises a step of receiving a piece of selection information from said terminal equipment, said selection information indicating said score information part and said instrument information part as being selected by said terminal equipment for downloading.

24. A method according to claim 18, **characterized** in that the substep of

25 broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through a digital broadcasting network comprises the step of broadcasting the resulting multiplexed digital information stream through a digital broadcasting network in a Digital Video Broadcasting form.

25. A method according to claim 18, **characterized** in that the step of

30 downloading (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of downloading (412, 419) said score information part to said terminal equipment through a point-to-point connection in a communication network.

26. A method according to claim 18, characterized in that it comprises the step of providing at least one of said score information part (101, 302, 303), instrument information part (104, 305, 306) and compatibility information (123, 210, 211, 212, 220, 315) in encrypted form.

5 27. A method according to claim 18, characterized in that the step of downloading (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part to terminal equipment additionally comprises the substep of encrypting at least one of said score information part and instrument information part.

10 28. An arrangement for downloading audio characteristics from a network to terminal equipment, said arrangement comprising a network device (200, 200', 300, 801), characterized in that the network device comprises

- a database of score information parts (101, 302, 303), each score information part describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal,
- a database of instrument information parts (104, 305, 306), each instrument
- 15 information part describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by a score information part,
- compatibility information (123, 210, 211, 212, 220, 315) associated with said score information parts and instrument information parts, describing the compatibility of said score information parts and said instrument information parts
- 20 with certain processing and storing capacity and
- means for responding to a selection command by downloading a score information part and a instrument information part to terminal equipment through a communication network.

25 29. An arrangement according to claim 28, characterized in that said database of score information parts and said database of instrument information parts form a common database structure (200, 200') where each score information part is associated with at least one instrument information part to provide a sound packet structure (100), and said compatibility information (123) is arranged to describe the compatibility of each sound packet with certain processing and storing capacity.

30 30. An arrangement according to claim 29, characterized in that said compatibility information (123) is arranged to describe the compatibility of each sound packet with the processing and storing capacity of certain terminal types.

31. An arrangement according to claim 29, characterized in that it further comprises means (313) for coupling selected score information parts (302, 303) and

selected instrument information parts (305, 306) into a common sound packet structure for downloading.

32. An arrangement according to claim 29, characterized in that it further comprises means for encrypting selected score information parts (302, 303) and
- 5 selected instrument information parts (305, 306).

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
8 March 2001 (08.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/16931 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G10H 1/00,
H04H 1/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/FI00/00737

(22) International Filing Date: 31 August 2000 (31.08.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
19991865 1 September 1999 (01.09.1999) FI

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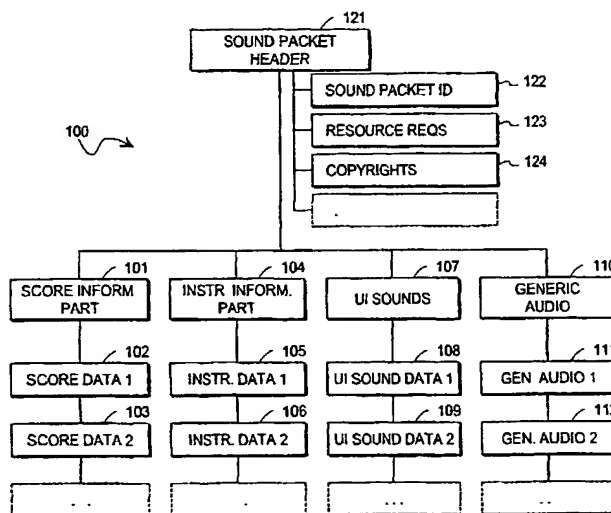
(81) Designated States (national): CN, JP, US.

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE,
CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC,
NL, PT, SE).

Published:

— With international search report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette

(54) Title: METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR PROVIDING CUSTOMIZED AUDIO CHARACTERISTICS TO CELLU-
LAR TERMINALS


(57) Abstract: A method is provided for downloading audio characteristics to terminal equipment. A score information part (101, 302, 303) is provided describing the presentation instructions of an audible signal. An instrument information part (104, 305, 306) is also provided describing the parameters for synthesizing an audible signal the presentation instructions of which is described by said score information part. Additionally some compatibility information (123, 210, 211, 212, 220, 315) is provided describing the compatibility of said score information part and said instrument information part with certain processing and storing capacity. As a response to a selection command (411, 418), (412, 419) said score information part and said instrument information part are downloaded to terminal equipment through a communication network.

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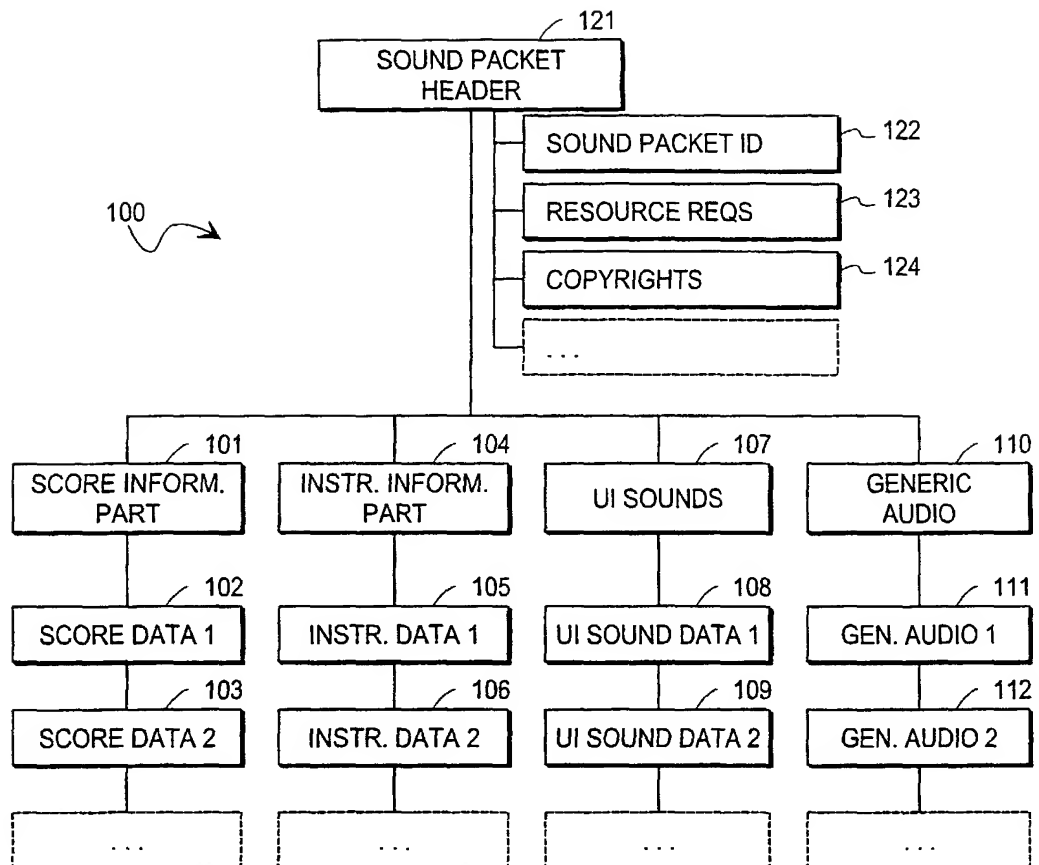


Fig. 1

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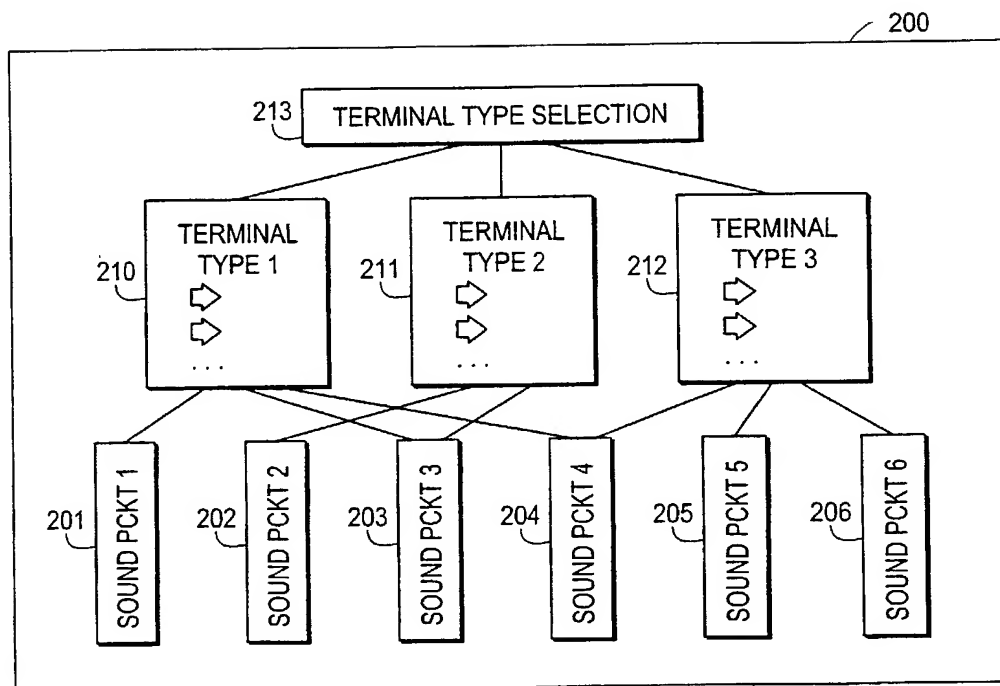


Fig. 2a

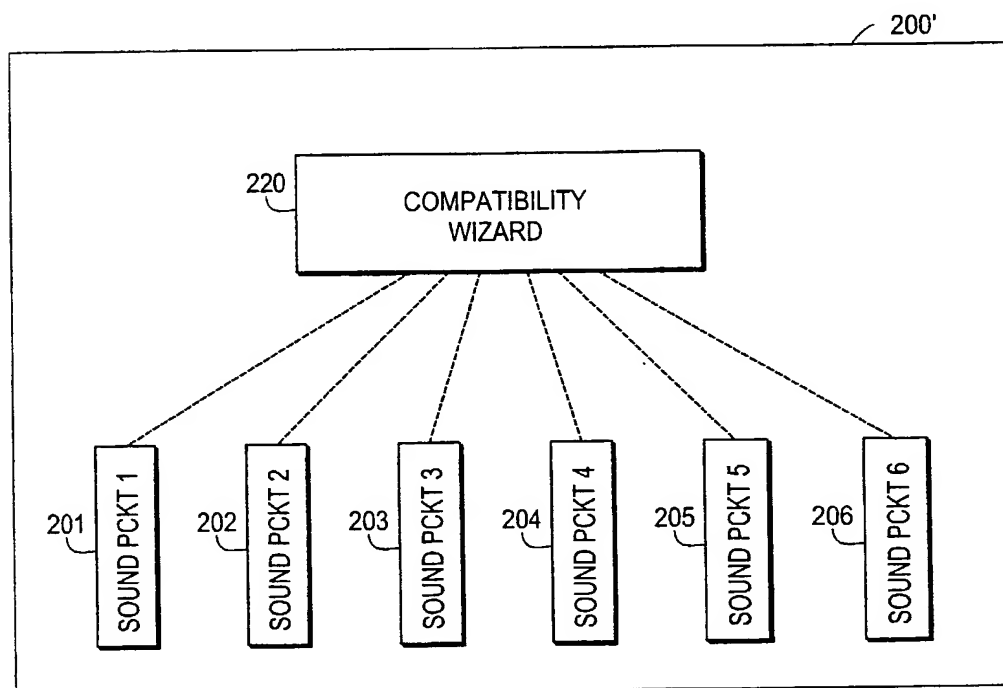


Fig. 2b

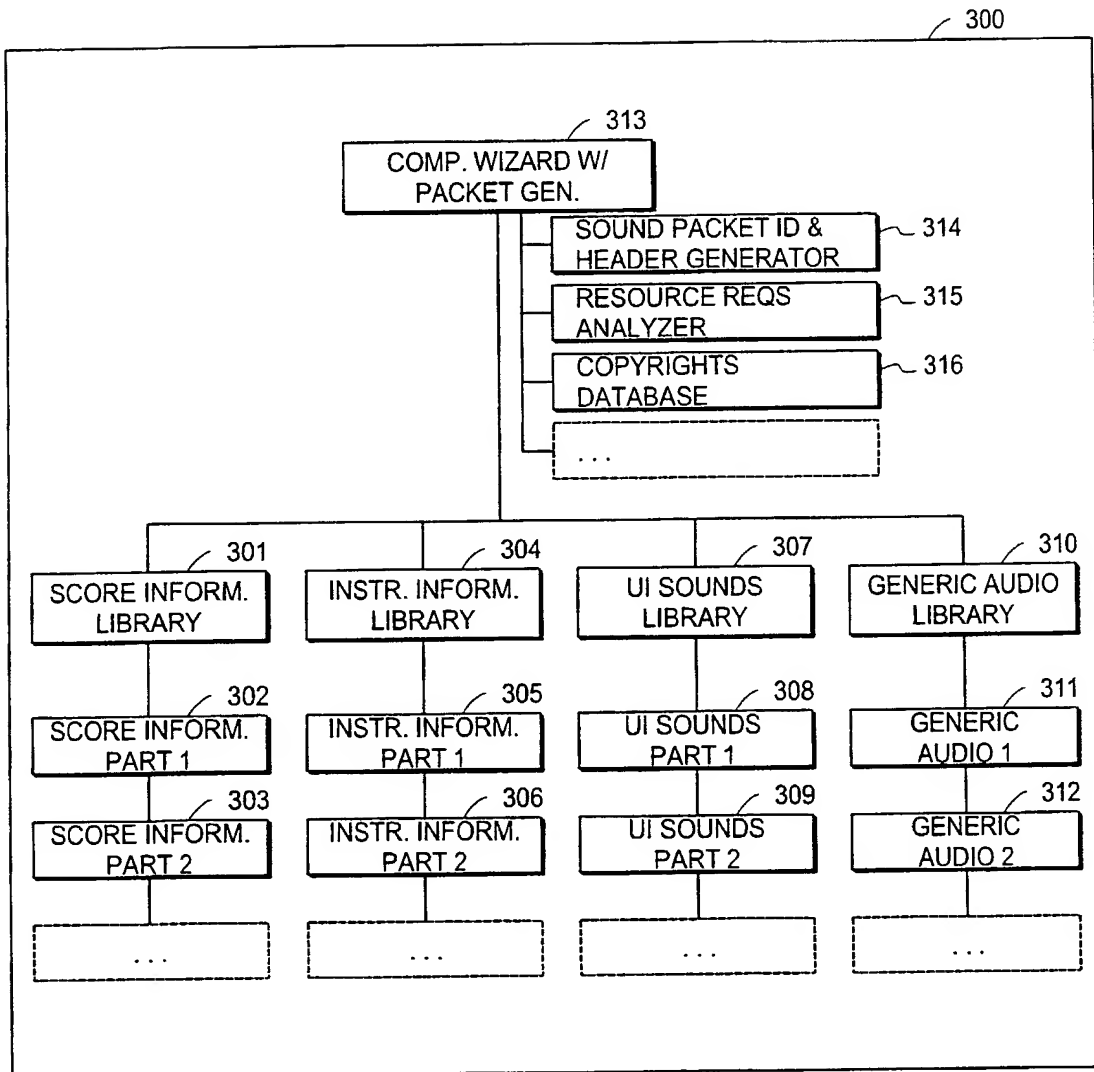


Fig. 3

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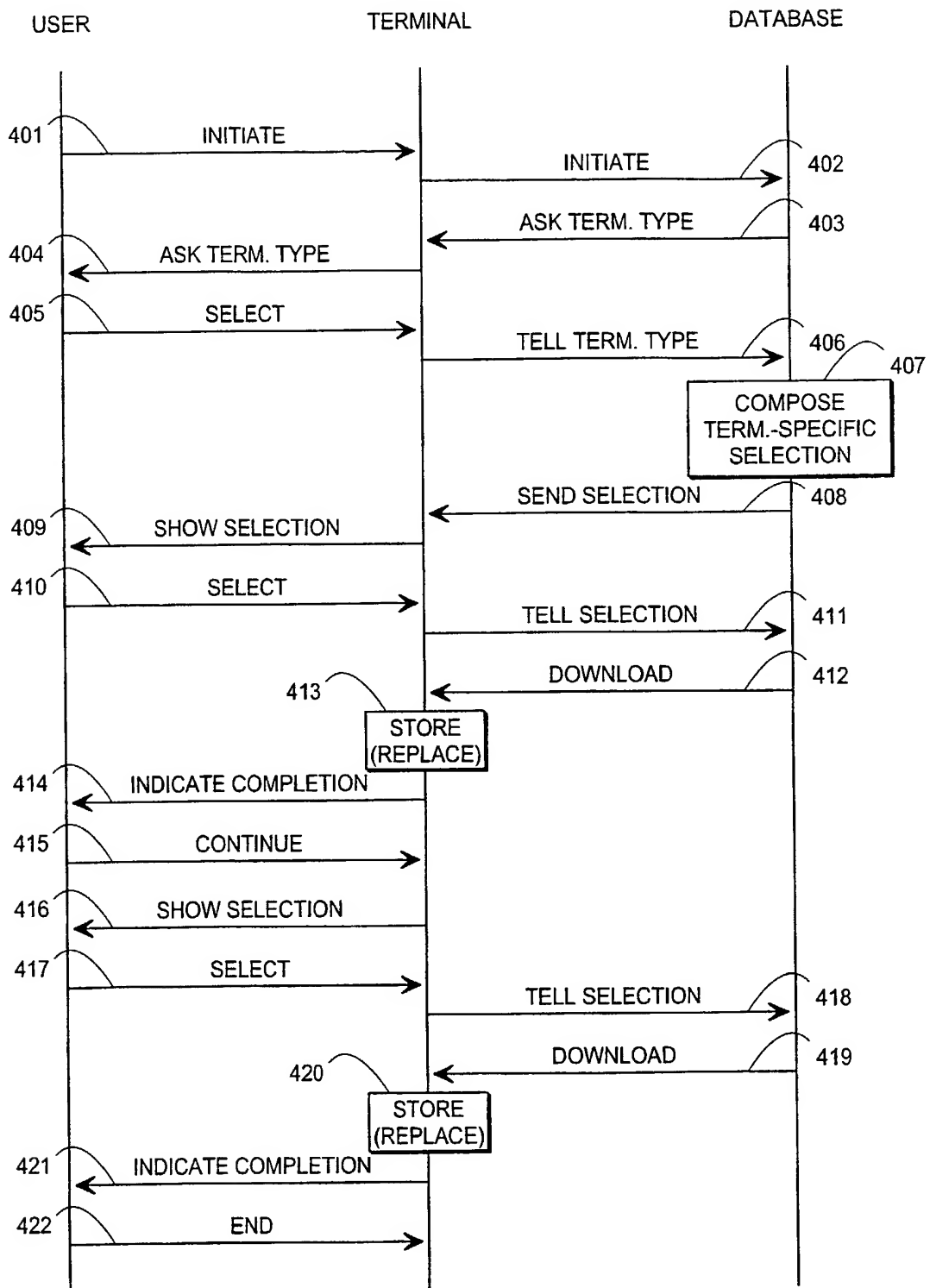


Fig. 4

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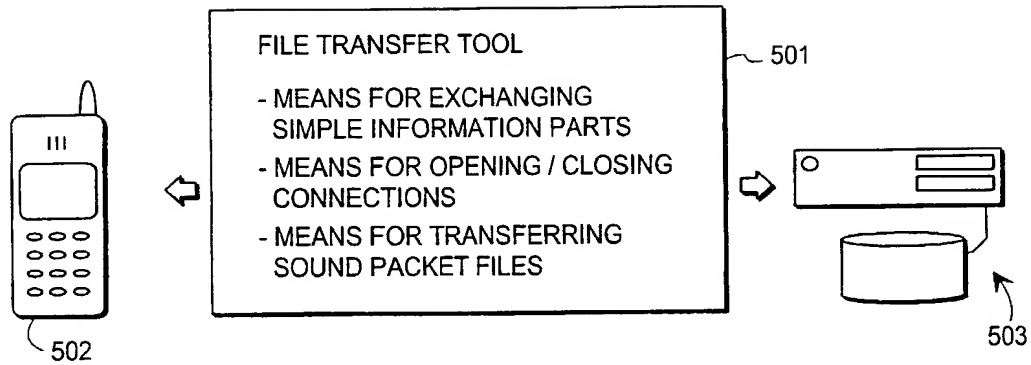


Fig. 5a

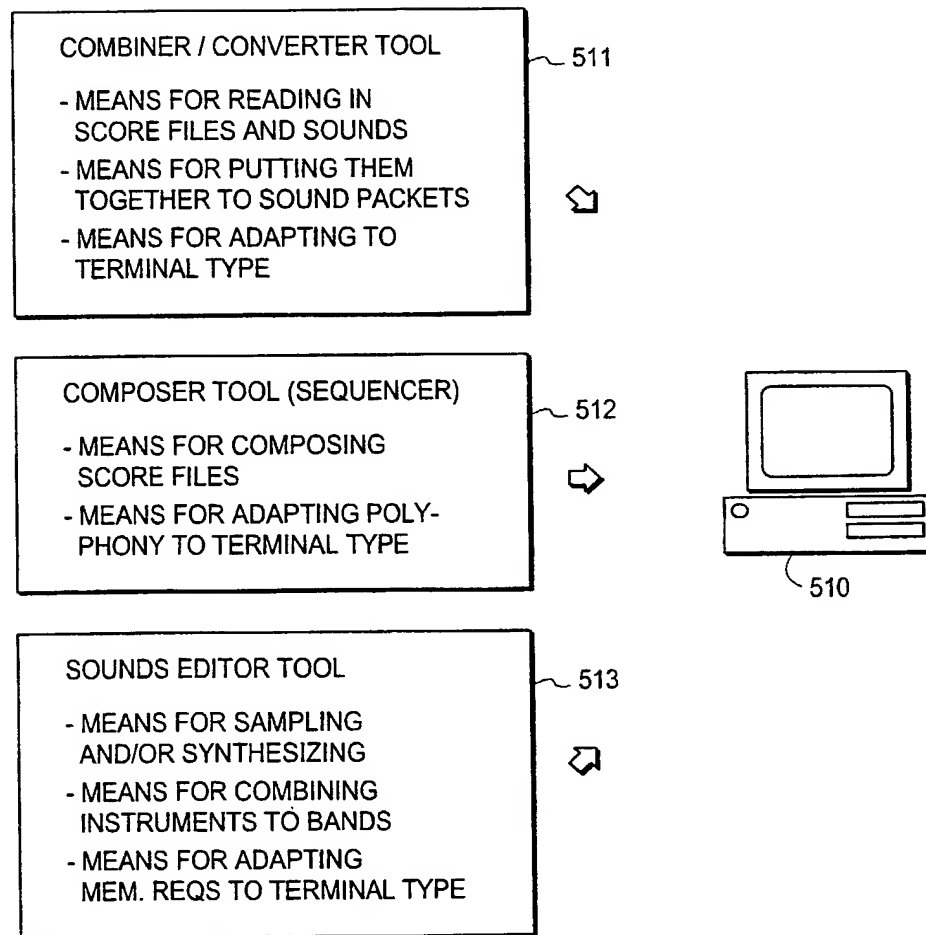


Fig. 5b

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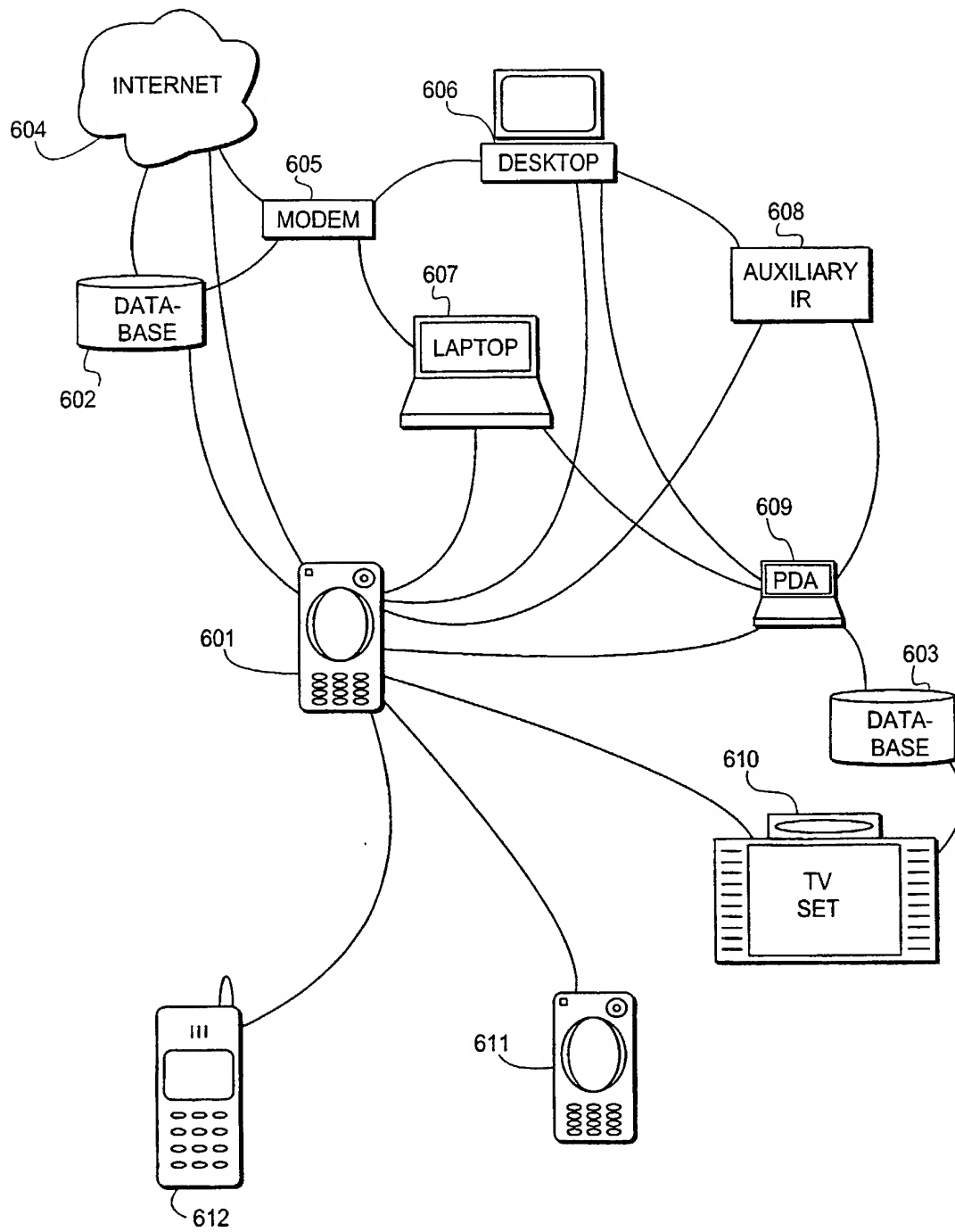


Fig. 6

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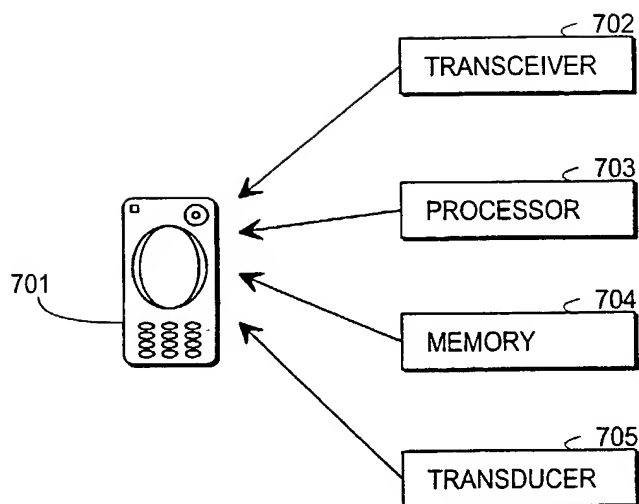


Fig. 7

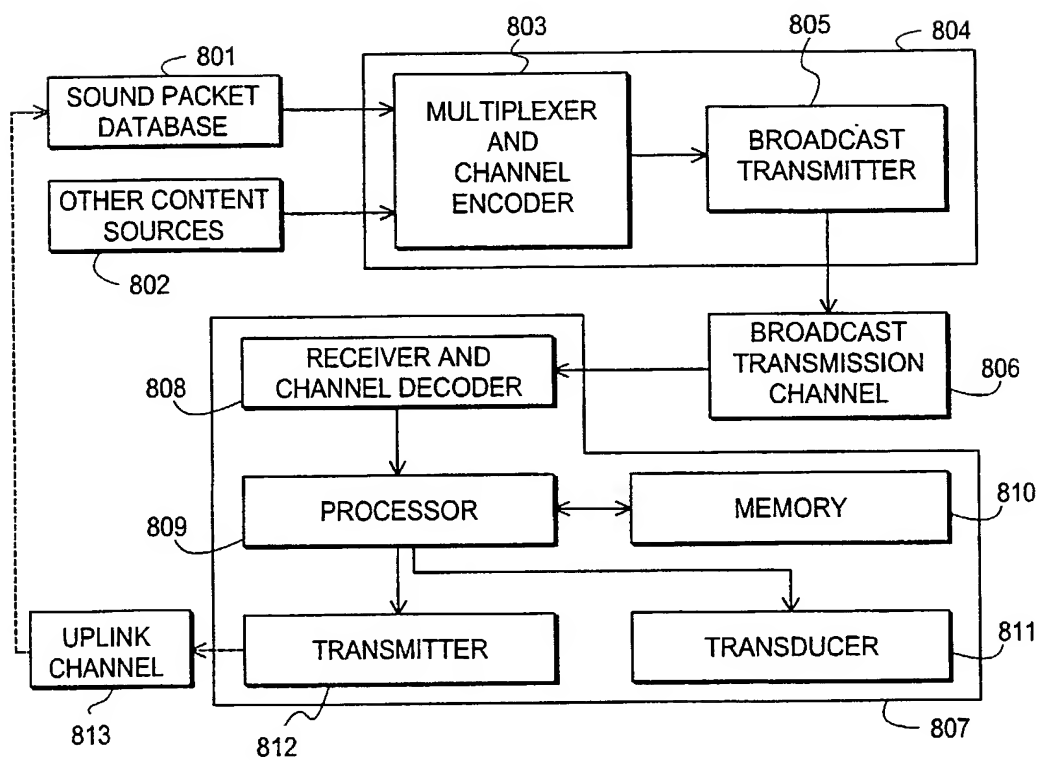


Fig. 8

Docket No.: 297-010857-US(PAR)

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Title: Method and arrangement for providing customized audio characteristics to cellular terminals

the specification of which

(check one)

- ☐ is attached hereto.
- ☐ was filed on _____ as United States Application No. **10/070,055** or PCT
International Application Number
and was amended on (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International Application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<u>Priority Not Claimed</u>
19991865	FINLAND	1 September 1999	<input type="checkbox"/>
PCT/FI00/00737	PCT	31 August 2000	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.:

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International Application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International Application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C.F.R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

PCT/FI00/00737

(Application Serial No.)

31 August 2000

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

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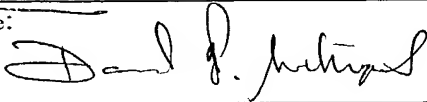
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